

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00836 240717Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 DHA-02
/079 W

-----240723Z 017441 /14

O R 231550Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6139
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 1381
THE WHITE HOUSE

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0836

E.O.11652:N/A
TAGS: PFOR,SF,US
SUB: VORSTER AND BOTHA STATEMENTS ON VORSTER-
MONDALE TALKS

REF: JOHANNESBURG 1267, 1268

1. SUMMARY: SOUTH AFRICAN PRIME MINISTER VORSTER AND
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PIK BOTHA EACH SPOKE TO
PRESS IN GENEVA MAY 22. VORSTER SAID THAT US
ATTITUDE AS EXPRESSED AT VIENNA, WILL NOT BE SUCCESSFUL AND
THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS PREPARED TO STAND ALONE IF NECESSARY.
HE NEVERTHELESS CHARACTERIZED HIS EUROPEAN TRIP AS A SUCCESS.
BOTHA LAUNCHED AN ATTACK AGAINST NEW US POLICY AND
SUGGESTED SOUTH AFRICA WOULD APPEAL TO AMERICAN PUBLIC OPINION.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00836 240717Z

HE ALSO REITERATED SOUTH AFRICA'S ABILITY AND WILLINGNESS
TO STAND ALONE RATHER THAN FACE DESTRUCTION, END SUMMARY.

2. SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IN GENEVA FOLLOWING
HIS VIENNA MEETINGS WITH VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE, PRIME MINISTER
VORSTER ACCORDING TO MEDIA REPORTS, SAID THAT THE NEW AMERICAN
ATTITUDE "IS UNLIKELY TO SUCCEED." INDICATING THAT SOUTH AFRICA

IS PREPARED TO STAND IN ISOLATION RATHER THAN CHANGE ITS POLICIES, VORSTER SAID "SOUTH AFRICA IS AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY AND SOUTH AFRICA IS PLEASED IF IT GETS SUPPORT FROM ANY OTHER COUNTRY. BUT IF YOU IMPLY THAT SOUTH AFRICA CANNOT STAND ON ITS OWN FEET IF FORCED TO AND IF NECESSARY, THEN YOU WILL BE MAKING A MISTAKE." AS A RESULT OF THE TALKS, SOUTH AFRICA WILL BE "MORE DETERMINED THAN EVER IN FUTURE TO COUNTER, WITH ALL THE MEANS AT ITS DISPOSAL, MARXIST IMPERIALISM IN AFRICA AND ESPECIALLY SOUTHERN AFRICA." HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT IT IS IN SOUTH AFRICA'S INTEREST TO FIND ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENTS IN RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA.

3. VORSTER SAID HE BELIEVED THE NEW US APPROACH COULD RESULT IN INCREASED SYMPATHIES FOR SOUTH AFRICA. EXPANDING ON THIS POINT, HE EXPLAINED THAT SOUTH AFRICA IS ENTERING A "NEW ERA" IN WHICH PEOPLE WANTED THE "REAL AND POSITIVE" FACTS ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA. NEGATIVE VIEWS ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA ARE BECOMING LESS ACCEPTABLE. VORSTER REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT HAVING BEEN ABLE TO PUT SOUTH AFRICA'S CASE ON THE RADIO AND IN THE PRESS IN EUROPE. HE CALLED HIS VISIT TO EUROPE AS A WHOLE A "DEFINITE SUCCESS."

4. SPEAKING OF HIS HERALDED MEETING WITH HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY MAY 23, VORSTER SAID THE IVORY COAST WAS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE COMMUNIST THREAT IN AFRICA. A SHORT STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE TWO LEADERS SAID THAT VORSTER HAD PROPOSED THE TALKS IN ORDER TO INFORM HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY ABOUT CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 CAPE T 00836 240717Z

AFRICA. VORSTER SAID HE REGARDS HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY AS AN IMPORTANT AND SENIOR AFRICAN STATESMAN WHOSE OPINIONS ARE WORTH LISTENING TO. VORSTER EXPRESSED HIS CONVICTION THAT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY IS NOT A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS, AND THAT THERE ARE MANY AFRICAN COUNTRIES EQUALLY CONCERNED WITH THE THREAT OF MARXIST IMPERIALISM.

5. IN A SEPARATE PRESS CONFERENCE IN GENEVA, SOUTH AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER PIK BOTHA LAUNCHES AN ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES AND SAID SOUTH AFRICA WAS PREPARED TO APPEAL DIRECTLY TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AGAINST THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S NEW POLICY ON SOUTH AFRICA. ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, BOTHA SAID: "I AM SURE THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE DON'T WANT SOUTH AFRICA TO BE DESTROYED" AND ARE OPPOSED TO PUTTING PRESSURE ON SOUTH AFRICA THROUGH OIL COMPANIES. BOTHA CRITICIZED WHAT HE CALLED AMERICAN "SELECTIVE MORALITY" AND GAVE THREE REASONS HE BELIEVES ARE BEHIND THE NEW AMERICAN POLICY: FIRST, "OBVIOUSLY

BLACK AMERICANS PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN MR.CARTER'S ELECTION, AND THEY ARE NOW CLAIMING PAYMENT. MR.CARTER IS EXPERIENCING ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS INSIDE THE UNITED STATES, AND PAYMENT MUST APPARENTLY BE MADE I THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS FIELD.

"SECONDLY, THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IS OBSESSIVELY PURSUING ITS OWN MORAL VALUES AND ITS OWN CONCEPTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACROSS THE WORLD.

"THEY KNOW VERY WELL THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD BE IN THE TOP 50 PERCENT OF THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD, BUT BECAUSE OF THE INTERNAL UNITED STATES BLACK-WHITE SITUATION, THEY ARE GETTING SOUTH AFRICA ON A SELECTED MORALITY BASIS.

"THIRDLY, THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS CONCLUDED UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 CAPE T 00836 240717Z

THAT IT WILL NOT AND CANNOT STOP THE RUSSIAN SUCCESSES AND PENETRATION IN AFRICA MILITARILY, AND APPARENTLY HAS NOT GOT THE WILL TO DO SO DIPLOMATICALLY.

"APPARENTLY SOUTH AFRICA MUST NOW FORM A TARGET TO CURRY FAVOUR WITH RADICAL ELEMENTS IN AFRICA IN AN ATTEMPT TO HALT THE RUSSIAN ADVANCE IN AFRICA."

HE CONTINUED: "SOUTH AFRICA IS NOT STEERING US ON A COLLISION COURSE. BUT IF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WISHES TO DENY US OUR RIGHT OF EXISTENCE, THEN SOUTH AFRICA FINDS ITSELF APPARENTLY IN THE WAY OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISM.

"THIS IS WHAT YOU ARE DEALING WITH HERE, AND WE DON'T FEAR IT.

"WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE OUR OWN DESTRUCTION OUR EXISTENCE OR OUR HISTORICAL RIGHTS OVER 300 YEARS, JUST AS THE UNITED STATES IS NOT PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE AWAY THE SAME RIGHTS." IN CONCLUSION, BOTHA COMMENTED THAT "THE PRIME MINISTER LEAVES GENEVA WITH HONOR, RESPECT, AND DIGNITY IN COMPARISON WITH THE SUPERFICIAL NOISES OF THE AMERICANS."

BOWDLER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEWS MEDIA COMMENTS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAPET00836
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770184-0673
Format: TEL
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770529/aaaaazev.tel
Line Count: 165
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 03c4428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 JOHANNESBURG 1267
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2411764
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VORSTER AND BOTHA STATEMENTS ON VORSTER- MONDALE TALKS
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, SF, US, (VORSTER, BALHAZAR JOHANNES), (HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY, FELIX), (MONDALE, WALTER F), (BOTHA, PIK)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/03c4428c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009